



**Dorothy Pelanda**  
***State Representative, 86<sup>th</sup> District***

**House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee**  
**Sponsor Testimony – House Concurrent Resolution 23**  
**State Representative Dorothy Pelanda**  
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Chairman Blessing, Vice-Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Clyde, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer Sponsor Testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 23 today.

HCR 23 encourages equitable and diverse gender representation on the boards and in senior management of Ohio companies and institutions.

The goal of this resolution is to shine a light on the importance of this issue. As stated in the resolution's language:

"Women in the United States have earned more bachelor's degrees than men since 1982, more master's degrees than men since 1987, and more doctorate degrees than men since 2006"

Furthermore –

"Women make up 46.8% of the U.S. labor force, yet only 15.9% of board seats of Russell 3000 companies belong to women" and that "In 2016, women represented 44.3% of the labor force in Ohio, but represented only 20.5% of board seats for Fortune 1000 companies headquartered in Ohio".

I believe that this resolution is an important step in furthering the conversation and achieving meaningful progress on this issue across Ohio.

From the resolution's language, this resolution will state:

"That we, the members of the 132nd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, urge all private and public companies and institutions doing business in this state to commit to increase the gender diversity on their boards of directors and in senior management positions and to set and publish goals by which to measure their progress".

Mr. Chairman and committee members, I appreciate your attention to my testimony and would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time. Thank you.